

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 226564
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 AID-05 /028 R

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APPROVED BY ARA - MR. MCNEIL

ARA/AND - MR. STEVEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, BEXP, EC

SUBJECT: US EXPLORATORY TEAM FOR PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

REFS: (A) QUITO 6151; (B) STATE 221193

1. APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE AS OUT-LINED IN REFTEL A. COMMERCE GREATLY REGRETS MISUNDERSTANDING THAT AROSE OVER PLANNING OF SUBJECT TEAM VISIT. SINCE PRELIMINARY WORK ON VISIT HANDLED DIRECTLY BY COMMERCE AND AMBASSADOR YCAZA, NEITHER EMBASSY NOR DEPARTMENT WERE FULLY INFORMED OF PROGRESS OF DISCUSSIONS. STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION. YOUR APPROVAL OF VISIT UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES IS APPRECIATED.

2. IT IS ALSO UNFORTUNATE THAT GOE PREMATURELY RELEASED INFORMATION ON VISIT TO THE MEDIA, A DEVELOPMENT WHICH COMMERCE HOPED COULD HAVE BEEN AVERTED. AS STATED PARA 8 REFTEL B, IT WAS HOPED PUBLICITY COULD BE AVOIDED OR
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MINIMIZED IN ORDER TO AVOID ECUADOREAN MISINTERPRETATION OF PURPOSE OF VISIT. IN THIS RESPECT, WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING EMBASSY MAY BE ABLE TO DO TO STRESS TO ECUADOREANS THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF MISSION AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED IN COMMERCE MEETING WITH YCAZA, I.E., POSSIBILITIES FOR ASSISTING ECUADOR'S INFRASTRUCTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

(C.F. PARA 6, REFTEL B).

3. COMMERCE NOW IN PROCESS OF MAKING FLIGHT RESERVATIONS. TEAM PLANS TO ARRIVE BRANIFF 911, 0720 HRS., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF EMBASSY COULD RESERVE TWO SINGLE ROOMS HOTEL FOR NIGHTS SEPTEMBER 10 THROUGH DURATION OF DISCUSSIONS WITH ECUADOREANS, BUT NOT BEYOND SEPTEMBER 16.

4. WITH ABOVE ITINERARY IN MIND, COMMERCE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S ASKING GOE TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS AND INFORM EMBASSY OF SCHEDULE IN ORDER TO DETERMINE HOW MANY DAYS TO ALLOW FOR TEAM VISIT DURING WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11. CHRISTOPHER

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